

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-14. (Cancelled).

15. (Currently Amended) An alkylglycol alkoxylate or alkyldiglycol alkoxylate that is free from alcohol and having a homolog distribution specific for alkylglycols ~~alkylglycol results~~ such that at least 50% of the sum of homologs of the total homologs present are the homolog having the desired number of alkylene oxide units, the homolog having one alkylene oxide unit less than the desired number, and the homolog having one additional alkylene oxide unit than the desired number, the alkylglycol alkoxylate or alkyldiglycol alkoxylate is obtained by the process comprising: alkoxylating C<sub>4-8</sub>-alkylglycols or -diglycols with C<sub>2-5</sub>-alkoxides to an average degree of alkoxylation of from 1 to 8, based on the C<sub>4-8</sub>-alkylglycols or -diglycols.

16. (Previously Presented) A mixture of C<sub>2-5</sub>-alkoxylates of C<sub>4-8</sub>-alkylglycols -or diglycols which, on average, have a degree of alkoxylation of from 1 to 8 as claimed in claim 15, and surfactants which, dissolved in an amount of 5 g/l of water, exhibit an interfacial tension of less than 45 mN/m at 20°C, and/or dihydroxyalkynes or derivatives thereof.

17. (Previously Presented) A mixture as claimed in claim 16, wherein the surfactants are nonionic surfactants and are chosen from C<sub>2-5</sub>-alkoxylates of C<sub>9-20</sub>-alkanols which, on average, have a degree of alkoxylation of from 3 to 30, and mixtures thereof.

18. (Previously Presented) A mixture as claimed in claim 16, wherein the surfactants are low-foam or foam-suppressing surfactants.

19. (Previously Presented) A laundry detergent, cleaner or wetting agent or cosmetic, pharmaceutical or crop protection formulation comprising a mixture as claimed in claim 16.

20. (Previously Presented) A mixture as claimed in claim 16, comprising 0.1 to 20% by weight of the C<sub>2-5</sub>-alkoxylates of C<sub>4-8</sub>-alkylglycols or -diglycols, based on the total weight of the mixture or of the composition.

21. (Previously Presented) A method of reducing the interfacial tension and accelerating the establishment of the interfacial tension in aqueous surfactant formulations or aqueous dispersions comprising: contacting the aqueous surfactant formulations or aqueous dispersions with C<sub>2-5</sub>-alkoxylates of C<sub>4-8</sub>-alkylglycols or -diglycols which, on average, have a degree of alkoxylation of from 1 to 8, as claimed in claim 15.

22. (Previously Presented) A method of lowering the viscosity of surfactant-containing formulations comprising: contacting these surfactant-containing formulations with C<sub>2-5</sub>-alkoxylates of C<sub>4-8</sub>-alkylglycols or -diglycols which, on average, have a degree of alkoxylation of from 1 to 8, as claimed in claim 15.

23. (Previously Presented) A laundry detergent, cleaner or wetting agent or cosmetic, pharmaceutical or crop protection formulation comprising a mixture as claimed in claim 17.

24. (Previously Presented) A laundry detergent, cleaner or wetting agent or cosmetic, pharmaceutical or crop protection formulation comprising a mixture as claimed in claim 18.

25. (Previously Presented) A laundry detergent, cleaner or wetting agent or cosmetic, pharmaceutical or crop protection formulation comprising alkylglycol alkoxylates or alkyldiglycol alkoxylates as claimed in claim 15.

26. (Previously Presented) A mixture as claimed in claim 17 comprising 0.1 to 20% by weight of the C<sub>2-5</sub>-alkoxylates of C<sub>4-8</sub>-alkylglycols or -diglycols, based on the total weight of the mixture.

27. (Previously Presented) A mixture as claimed in claim 18 comprising 0.1 to 20% by weight of the C<sub>2-5</sub>-alkoxylates of C<sub>4-8</sub>-alkylglycols or -diglycols, based on the total weight of the mixture.

28. (Previously Presented) A laundry detergent, cleaner or wetting agent or cosmetic, pharmaceutical or crop protection formulation as claimed in claim 19, comprising 0.1 to 20% by weight of the C<sub>2-5</sub>-alkoxylates of C<sub>4-8</sub>-alkylglycols or -diglycols, based on the total weight of the composition.